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IN giving his reasons for abandoning Homœopathy, Dr. Potter, of San Francisco, says: "He did so from the provings of carbo-vegetabilis by Dr. Wesselhoeft and Dr. Sherman's work on Milwaukee Test in 1879. That these proved to him that no crucial drug experimentation, conducted under scientific safeguards, could meet with any degree of appreciation from Homœopaths, and was further impressed by finding that ninety-nine out of every hundred so-called Homœopathic physician's were in the habit of resorting to regular therapeutics whenever any active therapy was to be done."

We cannot imagine anything more humiliating than for a man to desert a party because he finds he cannot agree with its principles, and to go over to the opponent and find that these same principles which caused him to desert are gaining ground day by day among his new friends. How must Dr. Potter feel, when read-

ing Prof. Bartholow's Principles and Practice of Medicine, to find the odds and ends of Homœopathy, the a b c of every medical student of the new school, set forth as the latest and best methods of treating the sick! How contemptible he must feel when he reads Bartholow's tirade against Homœopathic methods, and, on turning over a few pages, to see them advocated in the strongest terms as being the seed for the anticipated harvest of the advance in medical science to be made in the near future. Dr. P. knows these things are so; he cannot shut his eyes to facts so plain.

There is a great field before you, Doctor, if you would only take advantage of it. Now that you are a "regular," you can tell your associates something about these latest and best methods. You can go away ahead of Bartholow. You have doubtless retained your Homœopathic literature. Make a new and greater advance by writing a Homœopathic text-book of therapeutics under the cover of an old-school name. We will give you a few hints here: Prof. Hayes, of the College of Pharmacy here, told his students, a few days since, that it was useless to treat infantile diarrhœa with the old methods, but it must be treated "antiseptically" by dilutions of the bichloride of mercury. Antiseptically is pretty good, isn't it, Dr. Potter? You know what it really means, though. Prof. Smith, of Bellevue, says, that the nausea of pregnancy is best met by drop-doses of the Syrup of Ipecachuana, but carefully adds that it is "not Homœopathy, but clinical experience." You can see through this, can't you, Dr. Potter? Murrel lauds to the skies the use of Nux Vomica in constipation and vomiting. Did you ever hear of this before?

Southern old-school journals were full of an account of a wonderful cure of hepatic colic by Dioscarine. Funny coincidence that these Homœopaths had used it, was n't it?

They also say that phosphorous will check the ravages of yellow atrophy of the liver. Amazing discovery!

And so we might go on and fill page after page with old-school methods and advances; how they employ themselves stealing Homœopathic powder and firing it off, amazed and astounded at its efficacy. Dear doctor, we are afraid you did not look over the fence and see where you would get when you jumped. Now, in conclusion, we will tell you of a classic incident:

"There was a man in our town,
And he was wondrous wise;
He jumped into a bramble bush
And scratched out both his eyes;
And when he found his eyes were out,
With all his might and main
He jumped into another bush,
And scratched them in again."

The point is, dear doctor, just this: you will hop again if you are not careful. Look, and find out where you are going next time.

Bryonia.

A LECTURE BY PROF. E. V. MOFFAT.

(Photographic Report.)

OUR lecture to-day is upon *Bryonia alba*, the common white Bryony or wild hops, which grows freely in parts of Central Europe, but is not seen in America.

That variety found in England, the *Bryonia dioica*, is not regarded by us as an equivalent, although the British pharmacopœa sanctions the substitution.

We use the fresh root of the vine in making our tinctures and triturations.

The physiological action is clearly defined and interesting. It affects very prominently the serous membranes and the viscera they enclose, especially the pleura and lungs, the peritoneum and liver, and finally the meninges and the brain. The synovial membranes are inflamed and muscular fibre irritated, giving a close picture of true articular and muscular rheuma-

tism. The types of inflammation produced may be either serous or plastic, but not especially purulent.

Rhus, however, with a similar action, produces prominently serous and purulent types of inflammations, but not especially plastic.

In the lungs *Bryonia* produces a decided pneumonia of the true crampous variety which is oftener and perhaps most distinctively associated with pleurisy, giving the familiar pleuro-pneumonia. The drug, however, has little or no relation to catarrhal pneumonia. The brain is actively congested, but we are not so apt to meet with a true cerebritis as in *Belladonna*. Plastic meningitis is not uncommon, but *Bryonia* will never prove curative, or scarcely useful, even in cases of the tubercular variety.

As to the liver, *Bryonia* corresponds closely to a wide field of derangements, varying from simple engorgement to sub-acute hepatitis, including many phases of so-called "biliousness," but it is not a prominent remedy for the more profound grades of hepatitis or hepatic abscess. We turn, then, to mercury, phos. nux. china, hepar, and similar drugs.

But *Bryonia* is especially useful in cases of perihepatitis, diaphragmitis and peritonitis in general, both before and after exudation has occurred.

It is one of the few drugs which produces a *primary* constipation (most of the constipations you know are secondary to a diarrhœal condition), and in this constipation of *Bryonia* we see marked torpor of the muscular coats of the intestine as would naturally be expected from the apathy and muscular relaxation which characterize the drugs generally.

In the respiratory tract there is a tracheitis, but the inflammation does not extend below the first or second bifurcation of the bronchi.

In fevers, two prominent types appear. One, a rheumatic or an inflammatory fever—the other, the typhoid.

But whatever condition be present, you will bear in mind the following general characteristics which are more or less apt to appear in every *Bryonia* patient:

1st. *The apathy.* This is all pervading and ranges from languor to torpor.

2d. A very marked relief of all conditions by rest, and aggravation by motion.

3d. Sharp stitching pains.

4th. Relief of all conditions except headache, by external warmth.

5th. That the seat of any distress or irritation is very apt to grow sore and tender to the touch.

SYMPTOMATOLOGY.

Mental.—We notice some delirium, but it is not very marked. When present, its two special features are : first, desire to escape, which is pronounced, but not nearly so much so as in *Belladonna* ; and, second, the tendency to constantly dwell upon habitual business matters or the affairs of the day. This characteristic is not confined to delirious states, but is seen as well in dreams.

More often, however, the mind is simply weak and confused, with a little tendency to wandering. These states, of course, correspond to graver conditions, as pneumonia, typhoid and the like. In most of the milder grades of disturbance, however, you will find the patient apathetic, but, if disturbed, morose, irritable and decidedly ugly.

This moroseness is like that of *nux*, only in *nux* the patient is ugly most of the time, and in *Bryonia* is good-natured except when disturbed.

Head.—There is some vertigo of a whirling type, especially on suddenly rising from a recumbent position, often associated with pallor and faintness. (acon. bry and puls).

The headaches of *Bryonia* are well marked and clinically may be rheumatic, congestive, may arise from engorged liver, "biliousness" or gastric derangement ; and sometimes again they may be idiopathic so far as we can see. But whatever the cause, certain well marked characteristics are apt to appear—the pain is often dull and heavy, like a weight in the occiput ; on the other hand, it may be a throbbing frontal ache, with a feeling as if the brain would fall through the forehead on stooping. Generally the eyeballs are painful, very tender to

touch and moving them aggravates the headache, which is always worse, remember, from *any* motion and is relieved by rest. It is often ameliorated by pressure, especially the severe "splitting" headache, but is *not* relieved by external heat. Remember the fifth characteristic I just gave you, "that the seat of any distress is apt to grow sore to the touch," so we find, after a headache has lasted some little time, the scalp or whole head becomes very tender indeed.

There is an idiopathic neuralgic headache, not often seen, however, in which the pain starts over the right eye, passes down through malar bone to the jaw, and thence back to the occiput, where it becomes a dull heavy ache. Then, especially in bilious or dyspeptic states, we have headache as soon as the eyes are open and the patient moves in the morning—like *nux* somewhat, only in *nux* the patient awakes with it ; but in *Bryonia* he is comfortable as long as he lies quietly with the eyes closed. As a rule, noise and light do not aggravate the headache as they do in *Belladonna*.

Eye.—You remember the condition during the headache of extreme tenderness and pain in the eyeballs, which often feel as if contracted and pressed into the orbit. These symptoms may be seen in bilious or rheumatic headaches and often in iritis, especially if of a rheumatic type or arising from a cold.

Ears.—We notice a tendency to the formation of little boils in the meatus or on the external ear. These may often be aborted by *Bryonia*. A better remedy, however, is *Calcarea picrata*.

Nose.—Occasionally a dry coryza will appear, coming on with a very heavy cold, in which there is a sense of fulness, general chilliness with flashes of heat and pain up to the forehead, accompanied by a great deal of aching around the eyes and bridge of the nose.

We see in *Bryonia* a tendency to inflammation on the cartilages of the nose and often the formation of little boils about the nostrils and tip of the nose. As a characteristic of these boils, like that of superficial inflammation any where under *Bryonia*, the skin is red, but tense and shining. Sometimes this one appearance will lead the observer to a train of *Bryonia* con-

comitants. Apis, as well, has these little boils about the nose ; but in an apis case the pains are particularly stinging and needle-like in character. Arnica meets a tendency to small painful boils in general. There are several important types of epistaxis in Bryonia, but as general characteristics you will find it worse in the morning, and it is apt to relieve the headache or sense of fullness and heaviness in the head.

First we have vicarious menstruation appearing as epistaxis.

The other most prominent remedies in vicarious menstruation are pulsatilla and hamamelis.

Then during typhoid and other fevers Bryonia meets a tendency to epistaxis.

Again, in growing children it covers that condition which we might call, being subject to nose-bleed, especially in the morning, with weakness, languor, and probably congested liver.

Other remedies may be indicated in epistaxis. Remember Bell, in cases of active cerebral congestion, blood feels hot.

In millefolium, cinnamon and hamamelis we have profuse hemorrhage, but with no especially characteristic concomitants. In millefolium the blood is apt to be bright and in hamamelis dark. Ipecac epistaxis accompanied by faintness or nausea. China, frequent exhausting nosebleed with ringing in the ears. Phosphorus meets continuous hemorrhage of thin, watery blood. Carbo-veg. very dark, exhausting hemorrhage with great pallor of the face often after suppression of bleeding piles, or from straining at stool.

One frequent cause of nosebleed is relieved by kali bichromicum. These cases of epistaxis arise from small ulcerations or scabs on the septum, which the patient picks continually. Remember, kali bichromicum internally, vaseline externally, and "hands off" eternally!

The face, in fever, is apt to be red, hot, sometimes rather puffy, especially with circumscribed redness of the cheeks. Bryonia is but rarely indicated in erysipelas, and then the keynote is rather a curious one, viz.: the inflammation seems to start at the septum of the nose and spreads thence over the lips and to the face. The surface,

as is characteristic of all Bryonia inflammations, is shining, hot, tense, and the distress is markedly ameliorated by application of external warmth.

Mouth.—The tongue is generally white and thickly coated. If the patient be in a bilious condition, we will also note sticky saliva, bitter taste, bitter eructations and vomiting, this bitterness being often relieved by copious draughts of water. In typhoid the tongue is more dry, first white, then yellow, then brown, with sordes.

The teeth often feel elongated. Toothache is generally of a rheumatic type or from a severe cold, is aggravated by taking warm things into the mouth, and better from cold (coffea), and, like Bryonia, in certain other conditions, ameliorated by lying on the affected side.

Stomach.—Generally the appetite is diminished or gone, but the patient is thirsty, especially in fevers. Let us follow the course of an acute typical Bryonia bilious attack. For a few days there is insatiable hunger. Then we notice a white-coated tongue, the appetite falls off, there is headache in the morning, aggravated by motion ; patient extremely apathetic or languid, but ugly when disturbed or moved ; nausea, bitter vomiting, sometimes slight jaundice ; constipation of the torpid type, with large, hard, dry stools, as if burnt ; eructations, water-brash especially bitter in taste. In all these conditions remember the apathetic, torpid state of the patient. Each limb will seem to weigh a ton, and there is aggravation of *all* conditions by motion, with relief from rest.

Then a notable feature in fevers is that the patient has an aversion for milk, but on taking it for a while the relish returns ; and in Bryonia fevers milk forms one of the best diets.

Remember, in Bryonia the characteristic thirst for large draughts, usually at long intervals—simply because the patient does n't care to make effort enough to drink oftener. Aconite and veratrum, all have unquenchable thirst for large quantities at short intervals, while arsenic has little sips at short intervals. These, you see, are restless drugs.

Then we sometimes notice violent hiccough after eating, reminding you of hyoscyamus and

ignatia. But the principal remedies for hic-cough are cuprum, nux and cicuta.

Throughout this condition of indigestion we may have tenderness to pressure over the epigastrium and region of the liver. Then, from inflammation in the liver or investing tissues, we have tensive burning pains in the hepatic region, which is often swollen and sore. Remember, stitches in the liver, aggravated by breathing, coughing or pressure, and sometimes jaundice.

It is useful in the early stages of acute hepatitis or in peritonitis. The liver is congested, with pains under the right shoulder blade. Notice that in these cases we are very apt to have a shallow skin, white furred tongue and the headache.

Chelidonium is similar, but covers a deeper grade of disturbance with pronounced hepatitis, and this burning or oppressive pain under the angle of the scapula, or burning through the whole hepatic region is more pronounced, while the apathy characteristic of Bryonia is much less marked.

Abdomen.—Bryonia is one of our sheet anchors in peritonitis or in allied conditions simulating peritonitis, in which there is a great deal of sore, dull aching in the bowels, relieved by warmth and rest, but with sharp, sticking pains upon motion or pressure.

Bowels.—Primarily, constipation, characterized by torpor of the muscular coat. The stools are hard, large, dark, dry, as if burnt. The constipation is accompanied generally by this sluggish, bilious condition, with tendency to morning headaches. Nux also meets constipation with biliousness and morning headache, but the nux constipation is characterized by frequent ineffectual calls to stool.

The diarrhoea is characteristic, the most prominent indication being diarrhoea induced by hot weather, where heat seems to be the sole exciting cause. Or sometimes, when a cold seems suddenly to shift from the chest to the bowels (pulsatilla). Or we may have a diarrhoea in hot weather from drinking cold water too freely, reminding you of arsenic and gratiola, only in the latter cases we have the

indication, green, watery diarrhoea, and on drinking, the water gurgles audibly through the stomach and intestines. In gratiola cases it is the amount of water taken which causes the trouble, while in arsenic its coldness seems to be the main factor.

Then we have a bilious diarrhoea—brown, watery, very offensive stools, which burn and smart the anus. In all cases of Bryonia diarrhoea, bear in mind the marked aggravation by moving about, as this at once brings on a desire for stool, which, if the patient lie quiet, may recur much more infrequently. It belongs to the group of early morning diarrhoeas, but is not very often seen.

Urine.—As we would naturally expect, on the one hand from fever, on the other from liver disturbances, it is dark, and at times almost brown.

Female Organs.—We have here an important drug in pelvic peritonitis or in ovaritis, when the characteristic feature is seen, sharp, stitching pains from the least motion, even a deep inspiration.

Menstruation generally is too early, too profuse and dark red. Even here we see characteristically the flow is aggravated by motion.

That reminds you of Erigeron. In this drug, if the patient walk, the blood almost gushes, it is so profuse, but on lying down it is very moderate in quantity.

Then menstruation in Bryonia may be suppressed. In this case the patient is very liable to those intense splitting headaches so characteristic of the drug.

With other disturbances we notice vicarious menstruation, most frequently seen as nose bleed.

In disturbances of pregnancy and parturition it is often useful for after-pains that are sharp and sticking in character, greatly aggravated by the least movement, even taking a deep breath.

Remember it in suppressed lochia, with consequent splitting headache as though the head would burst.

We have under aconite sudden suppression of the lochia from fright or a chill.

Pulsatilla is useful in suppression of the lochia

with its peculiar tearful mood. Thus, however, has too long continued, thin, watery lochia.

Remember Bryonia in caked breast. The breast may be either pale or red, but it is hot, hard, very tender; pains aggravated by the least stirring, patient wants to lie absolutely quiet; it may run on even to suppuration.

Bryonia is the sheet-anchor in milk fever. With the appearance of the milk the breasts are hard and feel tender. There is a great deal of chilliness, headache, fever, coated tongue, often bitter taste, aching in the back and limbs, etc.

Respiratory.—In Tracheitis, we have a dry, tickling cough, feeling as though there were a little mucus in the trachea to be raised, and the patient coughs until the seat of the irritation becomes sore.

In other cases there is a hard, dry cough apparently coming from the epigastrium, and the patient coughs, until *that* spot becomes sore even to pressure.

We may have sometimes hoarseness with cough aggravated by entering a warm room.

Bryonia is usually the first remedy to be thought of in pleurisy presenting sharp, stitching pains in the chest, aggravated by the least motion of the thorax, consequently the patient breathes very superficially, often holding the chest with the hands, or if the trouble be unilateral, will find relief from lying on the affected side. You will often give great relief to these patients by strapping the chests so that all the breathing will be abdominal. With this dyspnoea you are apt to have fever, headache, chilliness, and the general Bryonia concomitants.

In pneumonia we have not always, but usually more or less sharp pleuritic pains. The cough is dry and hard at times, or we may find the scanty, tenacious, rust-colored expectoration typical of pneumonia. In Bryonia cases the expectoration is especially scanty, and indeed sometimes there is none. Of course we have the physical signs of hepatization. But the circumscribed redness of the cheeks, the slight delirium, headache, languor and apathy, the dry, coated tongue, etc., are all common to Bryonia cases. Bryonia is good in the first and second stages of pneumonia, especially pleuro-

pneumonia, but generally is useless in the third stage.

Iodine is a sheet-anchor through the first and second stages croupous pneumonia—one of the first drugs in the list. It is best given, I think, in the tincture, five to ten drops in a glass of water, two teaspoonfuls every hour. We have a high fever, restlessness and tendency to rapid extension of the hepatization. It seems to limit the spread of the exudation, and especially meets cases beginning in the apex of the lung. Often a pneumonia which might have spread through the whole lobe may be confined to a portion thereof. *Aconite* has high fever, thirst and restlessness, but is of no use after exudation has occurred.

Phosphorus, in the second stage, is characterized by oppression of the chest, the rusty, tenacious expectoration, tendency to exhaustion, and it is a valuable heart tonic. It tends to prevent the exhaustion and fatty degeneration so dangerous in pneumonia.

Sulphur will be indicated and very useful in delayed resolution when the exudation ought to begin to resolve but does not.

On the other hand, in Hepar the exudation softens down too fast, becomes purulent and we have, as is common in suppuration processes generally, rigors, sweats, and here profuse easy expectoration purulent in character, also great sensitiveness to cold air.

Tartar emetic is useful in the third stage where resolution is rapid but the expectoration is very difficult.

The breathing and cough are alike rattling, but expectoration is scanty, and if œdema of the lungs supervenes, tartar emetic is the first thought. Digitalis in heart failure with irregular pulse, rattling, breathing and suppressed or scanty prune juice expectoration, which is sometimes frothy in hypostatic pneumonia. Mercury is useful in the third stage, when the patient is troubled by night sweats and the cough is racking in character.

If the heart seems suddenly giving out, and there be no picture of digitalis, give strophanthus in doses of one to five drops. It will prove a most valuable tonic to tide you over an emer-

gency. Ammonia is another and more immediate cardiac stimulant. Pardon this long digression, and, coming back to Bryonia, we must mention serous pleurisy. Bryonia is useful in acute conditions, but in the insidious chronic cases, is not nearly so useful as sulphur.

There are many remedies for sharp stitching pains in the chest resembling those of Bryonia, which are not really pleuritic in origin. Ranunculus is useful in intercostal neuralgia. The pains are sharp and darting following the course of the intercostal nerves, but are not so markedly aggravated by the least deep breath as in Bryonia.

Asclepias tuberosa is useful in very heavy colds with loose, violent cough and sharp stitching pains in the chest—very much like Bryonia, except the cough is more apt to be loose, and the patient is more generally “broken up” by the cold. Kali carb. phthisical cases, sharp stitching pains through the chest, aggravation at 3 A. M.

Heart.—There is no special disturbance. We simply notice violent, rapid action, especially with the fever—not so often indicated in peri or endocarditis, but of prompt, sure action when called for.

Neck and Back.—Remember it in lumbago or muscular rheumatism in the large muscles of the back. It meets the quiet type of lumbago with great aggravation from the least motion.

Rhus is equally good in lumbago, but in rhus there is a stiff or strained feeling, and the patient is aggravated on first rising or moving off, and obtains relief from continued motion; is worse in damp, cold weather. Rhus cases may arise from a strain or over-exertion.

Rhododendron is useful in lumbago, especially worse before a storm. There is immediate as well as continued relief from motion.

Guaiacum.—Remember this in rheumatism, especially muscular, acute or chronic, but if articular, only chronic, it seems to cover a great variety of pains. We often notice the stiffness in rhus, but we lack the relief from moving seen in rhus. There may be a good deal of dull, sore, aching pains, like Bryonia, but it is not especially aggravated by motion. One symptom,

not so often met with, though very characteristic when seen, is that the pains are tensive and drawing in nature, and are apt to end up with a sharp stitch. Guaiacum is worthy of being much more widely used in rheumatism than it hitherto has been. Cimicifuga, too, is often used in lumbago.

Limbs.—We notice a good deal of weakness of the limbs and general languor. Muscular pains are prominent, not always rheumatic in origin, however, but often from a heavy cold, or a variety of sources.

Always bear it in mind, in synovitis, or acute articular rheumatism, with most agonizing pain. The joints are swollen, excruciatingly sensitive to the least touch. The slightest motion is intolerable. The joints are hot and shining, the skin looks as if stretched tightly over the parts, but the pain is markedly ameliorated from applications of external heat. A characteristic feature of the Bryonia inflammatory rheumatism is that there is but slight tendency to shift its locality. It may extend, but when it strikes a joint it comes to stay. Whereas, pulsatilla, and to a less extent caulophyllum, colchicum and benzoic acid, are constantly shifting here and there.

Caulophyllum is very apt to be confined to the smaller joints, the fingers, toes and ankles.

Benzoic acid will be indicated by the urine smelling like that of horses. It is, however, more gouty than rheumatism.

Bryonia is rarely, yet sometimes useful in gout.

Generalities.—Remember the Bryonia patient tends to sweat easily, reminding you of Hepar and Mercurius. There is also apt to be a great deal of soreness of the flesh.

Skin.—We spoke of the jaundiced hue, but another noteworthy feature is the rash. It is red, mottled, slightly raised, comes and goes, or is but partially developed. Bryonia then is sometimes very useful in scarlet fever, or in measles when the rash is imperfectly developed or is repressed. The patient is apt to sink into an apathetic condition, with furred tongue, flushed face, etc. Or, again, we would prescribe it in suppressed or repressed rash with metastasis to the meninges of the brain.

When cases of measles or scarlet fever tend to run an irregular or "balky" course, a few doses of Bryonia will sometimes smooth out the irregularity, and bring the rash more fully to the surface, thus relieving the prescriber of a profound anxiety.

Sleep.—In the apathetic condition, patients are apt to sleep long and heavily, troubled by disturbed dreams, in which they run over the business of the day, and awake in the morning tired out and with a severe Bryonia headache. This picture is very often seen in cases of torpid liver.

Fever.—The patient is easily chilled, especially upon any slight motion. He shivers every time the feet or hands are uncovered in bed. In intermittent fever the chill is short, the fever long and high. The pulse generally full and soft. The face is apt to be bright red, with circumscribed flush on the cheeks; but we have no sharply defined symptoms during the paroxysm as in apis, eupatorium, etc., so we fall back upon the general Bryonia conditions, viz.: thirst for draughts at long intervals, languor, sore, aching pains through back and limbs, etc.

In typhoid we have dry, brown tongue, thirst, not much delirium, with mainly a condition of prostration and apathy. There is more apt to be constipation than diarrhoea. The condition is one of apathy rather than profound exhaustion, so it is useful in the early and middle rather than in advanced stages of the disease.

Rhus and Bryonia follow each other well, but are generally antidotal if given together.

Per-Oxide of Hydrogen in Diseases of the Air Passages.

J. W. DOWLING, JR., M.D.

IT is only since 1883 that the value of this substance has been at all appreciated as a therapeutic agent, and in this short time, owing to the excellent results obtained from its application in many forms of disease, it has won a lasting reputation and earned a place among the foremost remedies for those troubles to which it

is especially adapted. Prior to the time mentioned, per-oxide of hydrogen had a small and unimportant place in all of the old-school pharmacopœias, and was used, though seldom, by internal administration. Its properties were little understood, and its beneficial effects were few, if any.

In 1883, or thereabouts, it was discovered that this chemical agent had a wonderful affinity for albumenoid matter, especially for such as were found in pus and purulent secretions of all kinds. This opened up a new field for its use, which has been diligently investigated and extended. Until now it is one of the most powerful agents we possess for the treatment of suppurative inflammation wherever found. In this short paper I shall confine the discussion to its uses in such of the various troubles found in the air passages and neighboring regions in which it has proved beneficial.

But first to state what this powerful agent is:

Per-oxide of Hydrogen, H_2O_2 , consists, as the formula shows, of *water*, to which is attached another atom of oxygen. It is a very unstable substance, readily losing its properties by exposure to air, light or heat, and easily decomposes, liberating one atom of oxygen. This oxygen is freed in a nascent condition, and is then very active.

It is ordinarily prepared by the action of dilute acids upon the per-oxides of the alkaline earths. For example, the hydrated per-oxide of barium is decomposed by dilute sulphuric acid, forming sulphurate of barium and per-oxide of hydrogen.

The solution thus obtained contains three per cent., by weight, of pure per-oxide of hydrogen, and is strong enough for medical use.

This substance has a great affinity for pus, its union with which is shown by a great effervescence.

Now to its uses:

Beginning with the mouth, it is used by dentists as a cleansing agent, readily removing all decomposing matter from the smallest nooks and cavities, and constitutes an admirable mouth wash for daily use. In the pharynx it is used chiefly as a cleansing agent for all kinds of ulcer-

ation, quickly rendering all sores aseptic and leaving a healthy base.

In the larynx it has been used chiefly in diphtheria and has many warm advocates among those who have tried it in this dread disease. It is claimed that its action is wonderful; that after application its corroding effect is so marked that the mouth is immediately filled with froth, and the membrane is found to be, to a great extent, dissolved and more easily expelled, and that its subsequent reformation is much less pronounced. In all diseases of the lungs it has shown its usefulness. As an inhalation it has given great relief to patients suffering from asthma. In all the distressing symptoms of phthisis, both of the larynx and of the lung, it has worked wonders relieving the cough, expectoration and night sweats. Lastly, in the pleura I have seen very great good result from its use. In cases of empyema, after the radical operation has been performed, it is of wonderful value in rendering the cavity clean and aseptic. Upon injecting the cavity with the solution, the fluid is returned foaming and frothing, and after a short time it becomes clear. This is positive evidence that all pus reached by the solution has been destroyed, and that the cavity is perfectly clean. The action of this agent seems also to be curative, not only destroying pus already formed, but preventing its fresh formation.

Obituary.

WE were painfully surprised to be informed of the death of Professor A. Varona, formerly Lecturer on Histology in our College. Born in Cuba, he studied Medicine at home and abroad, joined the insurrectionists against Spain as a surgeon, and came to this country when they failed to accomplish the task of liberating Cuba. He was the author of several treatises on Tumors, and also wrote some plays of high merit which have been produced on the stage in his native land. He was one of the most eminent surgeons of Brooklyn, his specialty being Ovariectomy.

Societies.

Hahnemannian Society.

FEBRUARY 8, 1888.

MEETING called to order 8 P. M., President Jewett in the chair. Five members were admitted.

ROLL CALL.

Paper by Clausen, '88, subject: "The Qualifications and Duties of a Physician."

MUSIC BY GLEE CLUB.

A paper discussing the Treatment of Strictures by Electrolysis, by E. S. Smith.

Discussion of papers by McGeary, Kastendieck and Holly.

Piano solo, Holly.

Recitation, by Wiggins.

Quiz Masters all re-elected.

Vocal solo, Martin. Pianist, E. S. Smith.

Motion made and carried, to suspend the by-laws and hold the Society commencement two days before the College commencement instead of one.

Motion made and carried empowering the committee to hire the Y. M. C. A. Hall for the annual commencement of the Society.

Motion carried to assess the members seventy-five cents to meet the necessary expense.

The Committee on the Sunday Lecture gave notice that the lecture was to be given February 19th.

The Society authorized the committee to provide a bouquet for the lecturer.

Report from Committee on Music.

Report from Committee on Printing.

A motion was made and carried giving the committee power to purchase such programmes and invitations as they deem best.

A motion was carried that each Class Secretary report to the committee the number of invitations desired by his class.

Violin solo, by Mr. Gardner, a guest of the Society.

A motion was made and carried giving the Committee on Diplomas full power to act in the matter of purchasing the diplomas for the Society.

On motion, a committee of three, one from each class, was appointed by the President to report at next meeting any changes to be made in the diplomas for '89 and subsequent classes.

Committee : Hamlin, '88 ; Tuttle, '89 ; Low, '90.

MUSIC BY GLEE CLUB.

A vote of thanks to Prof. Gardner and others taking part in the entertainment of the evening.

The Society voted to extend an invitation to the Faculty and students of the Women's College to attend the Sunday lecture.

Roll call.

Adjournment. A. A. Hoag, Secretary.

State Society.

ONE of the most successful meetings of the *Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of New York*, was held in the Common Council Chamber in the City Hall at Albany, on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 14th and 15th. The morning session on the first day was taken up with routine business and the election of new members, many of them being Alumni of the New York Homœopathic Medical College. The following, as far as we could ascertain, were elected : Professor C. E. Beebe ; Alexander Berghaus ; C. C. Boyle, '77 ; F. H. Boynton, '74 ; B. J. Burnett, '66 ; J. O. Chase, '87 ; Professor L. L. Danforth ; Charles Deady, '76 ; H. M. Dearborn ; Charles McDowell, '78 ; Arthur F. Eife, '81 ; C. Eurich ; E. D. Franklin, '79 ; J. B. Garrison, '82 ; Geo. T. Hawley, '86 ; W. T. Helmuth, Jr., '87 ; C. H. Helfrich, '84 ; S. H. Knight, '86 ; J. F. Land ; Professor M. Leal, '79 ; E. H. Porter, '85 ; E. J. Pratt, '81 ; W. U. Reynolds, '86 ; W. H. Scott ; Charles Teets, '84 ; V. Thompson, '62 ; all of New York City. W. D. Pitts, of Johnsonville, E. P. Swift, of Pleasantville and A. G. Warner, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

The evening session was occupied by the address of the President, H. M. Paine, of Albany, whose subject was : *Homœopathy, its foes and its friends*.

As every one expected, the address was highly appreciated.

On the second day election of officers for the ensuing year took place, which resulted as follows :

President, Professor W. T. Helmuth, of New York City.

First Vice-President, G. R. Stearns, '78, of Buffalo, N. Y.

Second Vice President, L. A. Bull, '81, of Buffalo, N. Y.

Third Vice-President, J. L. Moffat, '77, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Secretary, H. M. Dayfoot, of Rochester, N. Y.

Treasurer, A. B. Norton, '81, of New York City.

The most interesting part of the session was the reading of papers. The success of a meeting of physicians from all parts of the State principally depends on the value of papers read, and we are happy to say that all the papers were of the highest merit.

Professor S. H. Talcott, '72, read a paper on the *Revision of Laws relating to Commitment and Discharge of the Insane* ; Charles Deady, '76, on *Methodic Exercise in certain Ophthalmic conditions* ; Dewitt C. Wilcox, on *Cancer and the Curette* ; C. C. Boyle, '77, on *Traumatic Ulcers of Cornea with Hypopion, their treatment* ; H. I. Ostrom, '73, on *The Beneficial results that may follow an unsuccessful attempt to remove the uterine appendages*, M. O. Terry, on a *Serious Case of Neck Sprain, Intense Pain, Great Deformity, Paralysis and Recovery*, A. B. Norton, '81, on a *Case of Myopic Astigmatism, with weak external Recti Muscles* ; Professor Philip Porter, on *Abdominal Surgery, Clinical Cases* ; F. S. Fulton, '85, on *Intubation of the Larynx* ; S. F. Wilcox, '80, on *Congenital Hypertrophy of the Cheek and Lip ;—a Case* ; Professor J. G. Gilchrist, on *Treatment of Wounds* ; T. M. Strong, '71, on *Syphilitic Manifestations in Osseous Structures of Nose and Mouth* ; L. A. Bull, '81, on *Laryngeal Notes*, and many others.

The success of this meeting has awakened an interest in matters pertaining to the State Society which would indicate that the coming session, the semi-annual, which will be held at Syracuse on the 11th and 12th of September, will be one of unusual profit and enjoyment.

Correction.

Homœopathic Medical Society of the County of Kings.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY:

H. D. SCHENCK, M.D.

247 McDONOUGH STREET.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Feb. 20, 1888.

EDITOR OF THE CHIRONIAN,

NEW YORK.

DEAR SIR:

IN your last issue I notice an inaccuracy in regard to the Homœopathic Medical Society of the County of Kings. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

<i>President,</i>	J. L. Moffat, M.D.
<i>Vice-President,</i>	R. K. Valentine, M.D.
<i>Secretary,</i>	H. D. Schenck, M.D.
<i>Treasurer,</i>	A. G. Warner, M.D.
<i>Mineralogist,</i>	E. Hasbrouck, M.D.

Censors:

E. Hasbrouck, M.D., A. M. Lewis, M.D.

E. Chapin, M.D., W. M. Butler, M.D.

C. L. Bonnell, M.D.

Respectfully,

H. D. SCHENCK.

Class Supper.

THE class of '89 held its second annual class supper on the evening of Tuesday, February 21st, at Riccadonnat, Union Square. At 7.30 P. M. the class met at the College and marched down in a body, their guest, our worthy and esteemed Janitor, Frank, with them. Owing to an *accident*, a few were delayed in their arrival, but the hour of eight found all busy with the *hors d'œuvres*.

The two tables, accomodating fifteen each, placed cross-wise of the room, were very tastefully and handsomely arranged. Opening out of the main room was a small reception room, in which was placed one of Chickering's grand upright pianos.

The menus were exceedingly neat and tasty, printed on embossed card, with a rich and delicate hand-painting on the first page. The second page gave utterance to the good things which appeal to one's inner nature. The third

page announced the programme, whilst on the outside cover was printed the class officers and members of the class.

Ample justice was done the tempting viands as fast as they appeared on the scene of action. Though not elaborate, the dishes were all very nice and, seemingly, entirely satisfactory to all.

By far the most interesting feature were the speeches of our noble toast master and his corps of responders. The toasts showed careful and thoughtful labor, bountifully bestowed, some being almost works of literary art, yet underlying all was the never-failing vein of humor. Each and every member of the class was homœopathically remembered by the speakers. We would be entirely unable to give a synopsis of the speeches, so will simply give you the programme, from which you can draw your own conclusions. Great credit is due to our musicians for the manner in which they added to the enjoyment of the evening.

The occasion was a grand success in every way, and simply shows how ready we are to respond to a call of emergency. Great credit is due to the Committee of Arrangements for their excellent work in the duties incumbent upon them.

The following is our

PROGRAMME.

G. D. W. Hallett,	Toast Master.
Piano Solo,	C. H. Lewis.
The College Library,	C. E. Wilcox.

Song.

Allopathy,	G. H. Jenkins.
Piano and Cornet,	Lewis and Opdyke.
Class Prophecy,	G. P. Sword.

Song.

Class Poem,	C. P. Opdyke.
Piano and Violin,	Lewis and Bunn.
THE CHIRONIAN,	W. H. Bennett.
Solo,	J. Beecher White.
Hahnemann and Homœopathy,	E. G. Tuttle.

Song.

Our Professors,	F. Le C. Dowd.
Piano Solo,	C. H. Lewis.
To the Fair Sex,	C. T. Mitchell.

America.

'90's Supper.

CLASS of '90 held its maiden supper at P. Morrelli's on Tuesday evening, February 21st. At 7:30 the gay and festive Juniors gathered around the well-laden board, each wearing a smile and his best clothes, indicating the best of humor, and probably signified that some of them were about to enjoy one good square meal.

Morrelli was at his best and so were the boys, for they partook of the viands in an appreciable manner, to say the least, especially Methlane, alias C. H., who ate salt on his *wheat tubules*, thinking, presumably, that they were celery stalks.

Our temperance agitator completely ignored the presence of *spiritus frumenti* in his "Roman Punch" and declared it was very edible. "Ignorance is bliss."

Speaking of ignorance, we might add that no one (of the class of '90), so far as we have learned, was possessed of the above quality, to such an extent that he called for milk in his after-dinner cup of coffee.

J. B. Keep officiated as toast master in a highly satisfactory manner, creating much sport with his happy introductions, not to overlook his "Chinese imitation" or the "Fate of Baalam."

"The Class" was responded to by President G. F. Martin, who depicted the class as it is and as it is to be. He told us of "*Nobles*" and "*Pierce*" (peers) among us; of men capable of *Bucklyn* down to *Harder* tasks and thus *Breck* the record, of charity works who go down among *Low* and work in *Pools* and *Marshes* whose wills are as hard as *Flint*."

"Homœopathy," by C. E. Low, who said he had accepted the invitation to respond to this toast, hoping that the class knew nothing about it and thus could talk with impunity. He gave many arguments in favor of the toast, which were based on his own observations and study, and closed by expressing his regrets at leaving the class of '90 for '89. It was there and then manifested that the class regretted the fact quite as much as he.

"Allopathy," responded to by J. F. Ackerman, who pictured the allopathic physician (regular)

with the "hypodermic syringe as his only weapon of defense and unmitigated gall for his shield" as he labored in this world and watched his progress in the next.

"The Glee Club," responded to by J. H. Bryan, who rendered in response a song which was a very laughable phase of "The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals."

He related his experience with "one of the commissioners" who arrested him for purchasing a rat-trap with which "to destroy the obnoxious vermin."

"The Ladies," by M. M. Smith, was very funny and created much laughter as he portrayed the future for the class, each member undergoing trials with wife and mother-in-law—the embryonic cell element receiving a "lion's share," but who in turn came back on Mr. Smith with a vengeance, later in the evening.

"The Microscope," by E. H. Noble, provoked considerable hilarity by telling of the funny things seen through this "witty little varlet," of his ability "to diagnose at sight any pathological specimen placed before him." His poem will never be forgotten.

After the toasts, there was general speaking by nearly all the members of the class. Mr. Smith again amused the class with his "District school rhetoricals."

At a "wee sma' hour" in the morning the class of '90 "broke ranks" with a rah! rah! rah! S—s! boom! bah! similia, similibus curantur.

The Ladies' Association in Aid of the Homœopathic College and Free Hospital

WILL hold a Fair in this city, to commence April 2d, and continuing throughout the week.

Captain Earle has courteously tendered the use of the Second Battery Armory, on Broadway, between Fifty-second and Fifty-third streets, where the fair will be held. The proposition to found the College and Hospital was submitted to a meeting of influential citizens, and received a most cordial response. Liberal

donations from many generous friends attested their interest, and a site has been secured.

The proceeds of the Fair are to be devoted to aid this noble charity, which, it is hoped, will appeal to all who sympathize with the sick and suffering; and also, to those who desire to increase the educational facilities of the students connected with the School of Medicine which this College and Hospital will represent.

Donations of money, fancy or useful articles, are earnestly solicited and may be sent to any of the following ladies:

PRESIDENT,

MRS. WM. TOD HELMUTH,

299 Madison Avenue.

VICE-PRESIDENTS,

MRS. CHARLES ABERNETHY,	MRS. JOHN JAY,
" E. C. BENEDICT,	" L. R. NILES,
MISS N. W. BRUCE,	" THOMAS C. PLATT,
MRS. RUFUS P. COWING,	" WM. ROCKEFELLER,
" CHARLES J. CANDA,	" J. ROCKEFELLER,
" BEEKMAN DE PUYSTER,	" W. T. SHERMAN,
" DAVID DOWS,	" WM. H. STARBUCK,
" THOMAS EGGLESTON,	" GEO. WESTINGHOUSE,
" ROSWELL P. FLOWER,	" JR.,
" WALTER GURNEE,	" JOHN WOLFE,
	" — VANWINKLE.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Chairman,

GEORGE W. ELY,

Secretary Stock Exchange.

MR. JOHN F. BAKER,	MRS. CHARLES McLEAN
" CAREY,	PECK,
" FERDINAND P. EARLE,	" WM. McDONALD,
" CHARLES ROPES,	" GEORGE W. ELY,
MRS. CHARLES H. ROPES,	" ISAAC S. PLATT,
" HENRY J. NEWTON,	" T. F. ALLEN,
" LUCIEN NILES,	" FERDINAND P. EARLE.

TREASURER,

CHARLES S. SMITH,

President Chamber of Commerce.

TICKET COMMITTEE.

MRS. H. I. OSTROM,	- - -	<i>42 West 48th Street.</i>
" R. P. COWING,	- - -	<i>138 East 78th Street.</i>
DR. MARY E. BOND,	- - -	<i>122 Lexington Avenue.</i>

SECRETARY,

MRS. HENRY J. NEWTON,

128 West 43d Street.

Many new features will be added to the list of attractions, among which will be a voting contest for a 'Varsity shell of newest model and manufacture, the order for which has already been placed with E. Waters & Sons, Troy, N. Y. Homœopathic exchanges please copy.

Professor Helmuth's "Sunday Lecture."

THE largest audience ever assembled in our College Amphitheatre greeted Professor Helmuth upon the occasion of the delivery of his "Sunday Lecture." The Lecture Room was crowded to its utmost capacity, and the stairs and landings were not without occupants. The College Glee Club opened the exercises with a few remarkably well rendered selections, followed by some brief introductory remarks by H. C. Jewett, '88, President of the Hahnemannian Society. In our next issue we hope to give our readers a synopsis of this Lecture.

College Notes.

UNLESS all signs fail, a chair of Urinary Analysis will soon be created by the Faculty.

Moriarity, '88, has made a thorough and valuable proving of Ferrum Phos. It is now in the hands of Prof. Moffat, and probably will soon be made public.

A TELEPHONE, extending from the College to the block "across the way" is greatly desired by a few members of the Middle and Junior classes. In case this scheme should be consummated, the hieroglyphics on the window pane would no longer be necessary. Doubtless the Assistant Business Manager of THE CHIRONIAN will be in full charge of the line.

A few weeks ago we were pleased to announce to the Students of our College that Wilcox, '89, was the happy father of a bouncing girl weighing ever so many pounds. 'Eighty-eight looked rather jealous, and in order not to be outdone by the Middlemen, the Class appointed Cummins and Robinson, to redeem their rep-

tation. Result—both are fathers of happy girls' weighing ever so many pounds more. Men of '90, take pattern after your seniors, get married, and let us know next year the result of your studies during the summer.

CUPID has been extremely busy during the summer months. The Faculty of our College seem to have been his special object. Not content with darting his arrows at our Professors of Pædology, Anatomy and Materia Medica, and making them his victims, he must aim also at our Professor of Jurisprudence. That he succeeded, may be proved by the following announcement:

Married, January 31, 1888, by the Rev. J. M. Haldeman, at the residence of the bride's parents, Miss Kate J. Luther to Roger H. Lyon.

We have promised to give Cupid the address of our Professor of Physiology, the only member of the Faculty who remains yet in the state of single blessedness.

Book Notices.

A Practical Manual of Gynæcology. G. R. Southwick, M.D., Assistant Professor of Obstetrics in the Boston University School of Medicine. Boston and Providence: Otis Clapp & Son. p.p. 408. Price \$3.75.

ONE of the most clearly written books that it has been our good fortune to meet with, and a book which can be most heartily recommended to students and graduates alike.

Dr. Southwick has something to say in this book on a subject which is creating a great deal of discussion at present among gynæcologists, that is, the influence of the manner of life and dress on diseases of the female generative system, and says it with such an air of self-conviction as to carry with him the belief of the reader. For instance, in the chapter on education and fashion as causes, he says:

"At this time the girl just entering into womanhood is undergoing the cramming processes of school life and various accomplishments. The generative organs, which are rapidly developed at this period, suffer from mal-nutrition in consequence of the perversion of nerve force. One of our

most prominent gynæcologists believes this is a fruitful source of imperfect development of the sexual organs, with the consequences of various "weaknesses" and sterility, either absolute or relative. But the demands of education are not the only ones made upon her. Fashion decrees that she must wear longer and heavier skirts and dresses, too often suspended from the waist instead of the shoulders. Tight-fitting corsets must be added to make the latter fit well, and still further impede the free circulation of blood. Habits of luxury and ease also play a rôle. Sitting on stuffed easy chairs compresses the sides of the pelvis and the blood vessels, instead of allowing the pressure to come on the ischial tuberosities, where nature intended. Bodily posture is not without its influence; too often, in sitting down, the pelvis is tilted upward and the body forward, the erect position is lost, and the weight of the intestines is allowed to come directly upon the contents of the true pelvis. A similar condition is produced by wearing high-heeled shoes. All these tend not only to cause, but also to perpetuate a chronic congestion of the pelvic organs from the very beginning of her sexual life."

Such advice and criticism cannot but have its effect, and we trust the profession will show its appreciation of its frankness. The doctor has a very refreshing way of saying some very plain things in a very open manner, and strikes some blows that will be felt.

"In consultation, some doctors seek to consult with one who is sure to agree with them, no matter what the treatment has been, rather than one who might advise differently and aid them in the treatment of the case." This may cause some to wince, but shows a knowledge of human nature. The book is filled throughout with good things and is a pleasure to read. In the back is blank ruled leaves on which to record cases in any way remarkable, and the treatment adopted, together with the result, hoping in this manner to gather valuable statistics and information from which to make future conclusions for a future edition. We predict that many future editions will be seen. Such a book cannot but meet with the approval of the profession.